

2021 Children's Mental Health Awareness Week Proclamation

Council Sponsors: Councilors Alisa Brewer, Dorothy Pam, and Sarah Swartz

Community Sponsor: Jan Lamberg

WHEREAS, the residents of Amherst value their health and mental health and that of their families; and

WHEREAS, 20% of children and youth in the United States live with a mental health condition and 50% of all lifetime instances of mental illness begin before age 14; and

WHEREAS, children and youth with the most intense needs, children and youth who are members of racial or ethnic minorities, and children and youth who are not insured are frequently underserved in the areas of presentation, access, quality of treatments, and outcomes of care; and

WHEREAS, children and youth with mental health needs in elementary, middle, and high school are more likely to be bullied, absent, suspended, expelled, or fail to graduate; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the early warning signs of mental health needs and obtaining the necessary support, assistance, and treatment gives children and youth better opportunities to lead full and productive lives at home, in schools, and in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the involvement and partnership of family members in the assessment and treatment of children and youth is essential to positive outcomes; and

WHEREAS, our nation's future depends on the health and well-being of its families and their children; and

WHEREAS, Children's Mental Health Awareness Week was developed by families of children with emotional, behavioral, and mental health needs, to focus on the needs of their children and families; and

WHEREAS, in celebrating this year's theme, "Painting a Picture of Hope for the Future", it is fitting to increase public awareness among all Amherst residents of this important issue.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Amherst Town Council proclaims the week of May 2-8, 2021 to be Children's Mental Health Awareness Week to help cultivate in all residents of Amherst an awareness of the mental health needs of our children.

VOTED this 12th day of April, 2021

J Lyhn driesemer (Apr 13, 2021 20:32 ED

J. Lynn Griesemer Town Council President

6.b. 2021 Children's Mental Health Awareness Week Proclamation_as voted by GOL 4-7-21 with sponsor name

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